THE MEADOW LYCHNIS.

(Lychnis Flos Cucu'i.)

Class, Decandria Order, Pentagynia. Nat. Ord., Caryophylleæ.

Moist meadows are the favorite places of growth for this gay plant, where it stands prominent among the rushes, cotton reed, and orchises, for wherever these grow the Meadow Lychnis, (or Ragged Robin, as it is also called) is sure to be met with.

"How gaily Ragged Robin stands,
'Mid cotton grass and rushes;
Pleased he thrives in marshy lands,
Nor envies gaudy bushes.

"Gaudy bushes would conceal him
From the sunbeam's cheerful heat,
Which he loves to feel so near him,
Standing in the moistened peat."

The plant grows about a foot high, the flowers are rose colored and grow in a panicle. The petals are cut into several narrow divisions, which gives it a ragged appearance; the stems are hairy below, and of a reddish green above.

"Oh, Robin loves to prank him rare,
With fringe and flounce and all,
Till you'd take him for a lady fair
Just going to a ball.

J. H. CLARK The Songs of the Seasons and Wild Flowers of the Months HALIFAX, 1851 CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN Octavo